

Issue NE-CW4103, released October 14, 2003, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541 or e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov. Homepage - <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

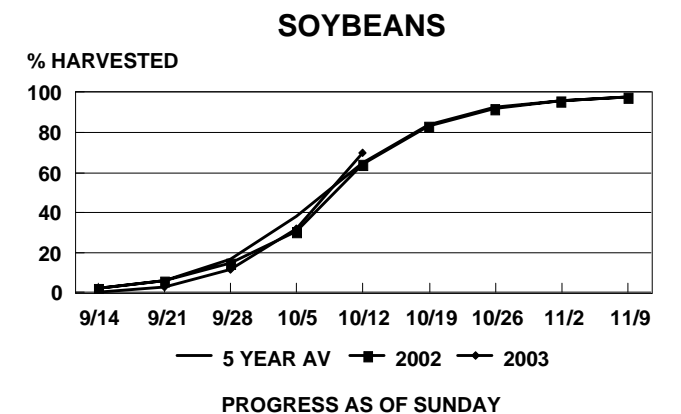
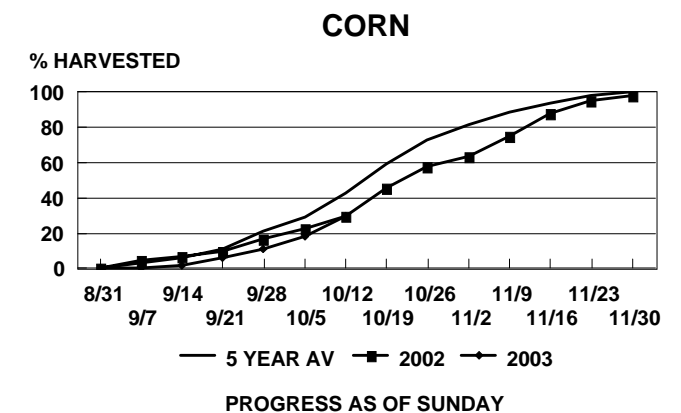
Agricultural Summary: For the week ending October 12, 2003, soybean harvest made excellent progress while corn continued at a slower than normal pace, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Producers focused on soybeans and waited for corn’s grain moisture to decline. Many areas of the state have not yet had a killing freeze.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged from 4 to 11 degrees above normals for the week. Precipitation was scattered and light with most received in the eastern half of the state.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending October 12, 2003

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	28	32	21	21
Short	39	35	33	29
Adequate	33	33	46	49
Surplus	0	0	0	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	46	44	55	33
Short	40	43	30	28
Adequate	14	13	15	39
Surplus	0	0	0	0
Days Suitable	6.7	6.5	5.8	5.8

Field Crops Report: Corn condition rated 14 percent very poor, 13 poor, 22 fair, 33 good, and 18 excellent. Irrigated fields rated 76 percent good and excellent while dryland fields rated 16. Ninety-four percent of the acreage was mature, behind last year at 96 and average at 98. Harvest reached 30 percent, ahead of last year at 29 but a week behind average at 43.



Soybean condition rated 14 percent very poor, 24 poor, 33 fair, 23 good, and 6 excellent. Ninety-eight percent of the crop had dropped leaves, same as last year but behind average. Harvest jumped to 70 percent complete, ahead of last year at 51 and average at 62.

Sorghum condition rated 23 percent very poor, 32 poor, 34 fair, 11 good, and 0 excellent. The crop was mature on 96 percent of the acreage, ahead of 95 last year and average. Harvest was 34 percent completed, behind last year at 40 and average at 41.

Dry bean harvest progressed to 93 percent complete, ahead of 88 last year and 92 average.

Wheat seeding neared completion at 96 percent, ahead of last year at 95 and the same as average. Eighty-two percent had emerged, ahead of last year at 81 and average at 79.

Proso millet harvest advanced to 90 percent complete, ahead of 81 last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 15 percent very poor, 20 poor, 33 fair, 28 good, and 4 excellent. Fourth cutting activities continued where growth permitted with 92 percent harvested, ahead of both last year and average at 89.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending
October 12, 2003

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Corn Mature	94	85	96	98
Corn Harvested	30	18	29	43
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	98	93	98	99
Soybeans Harvested	70	32	51	62
Sorghum Mature	96	67	95	95
Sorghum Harvested	34	13	40	41
Wheat Planted	96	93	95	96
Wheat Emerged	82	71	81	79
Alfalfa 4 th Cutting	92	86	89	89

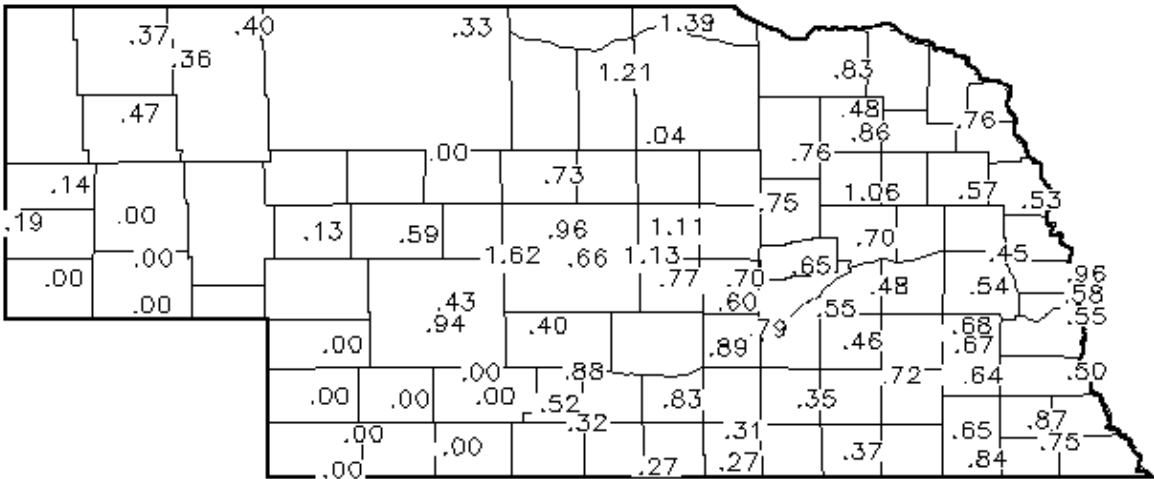
Crop Condition: Nebraska,
Week Ending October 12, 2003

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Corn	14	13	22	33	18
Soybean	14	24	33	23	6
Sorghum	23	32	34	11	0
Alfalfa	15	20	33	28	4

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 35 percent very poor, 29 poor, 26 fair, 10 good, and 0 excellent, above last year but below average. Supplemental feeding continued.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending October 12, 2003



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - October 12, 2003

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.17	.65	.74	.94	.63	.08	.58	.67
Total since April 1	12.35	14.27	21.35	17.14	19.84	15.06	16.81	22.74
Normal since April 1	13.39	17.15	20.06	18.91	21.97	16.03	18.97	23.06
Total as % of normal	92%	83%	106%	90%	90%	93%	88%	99%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, October 12, 2003

Station		Temperature			
		Extremes		Average	Departure
		High	Low		
NW	Alliance	87	33	59	+8
	Scottsbluff	89	32	58	+7
	Sidney	88	36	61	+9
NC	Ainsworth	87	38	64	+11
	Arthur	86	33	61	+8
	O'Neill	87	37	64	+10
NE	Concord	84	37	62	+8
	Elgin	85	38	63	+9
	West Point	84	35	62	+6
C	Grand Island	82	36	62	+7
	Lexington	82	38	64	+9
	Ord	85	33	62	+7
EC	Lincoln	82	38	64	+7
	Central City	83	35	62	+7
	Mead	84	34	63	+6
SW	Champion	92	28	61	+7
	North Platte	87	30	62	+8
	Curtis	88	29	63	+8
SC	Arapahoe	88	25	58	+5
	Minden	81	35	62	+7
	Red Cloud	79	34	61	+6
SE	Beatrice	80	36	62	+4
	Clay Center	79	35	60	+5
	Nemaha	84	42	65	+7

Source: High Plains Climate Center.